

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

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P R 150800Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8742

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2094

BELGRADE FOR HICKMAN

USDOC FOR SECRETARY DENT

SECSTATE ALSO PASS DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, RO

SUBJECT: ROMANIAN REQUEST FOR CCC CREDITS

REF: A) BUCHAREST 1939; B) BUCHAREST 2006; C) VAN HEUVEN/MARTENS
LETTER 5/9/74 (NOTAL)

1. AS FURTHER BACKGROUND FOR REASONS BEHIND GOR REVISED INQUIRY,
WHICH SUSPENDS REQUEST FOR WHEAT BUT STILL INCLUDES REQUIREMENT
FOR CORN, FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE USEFUL:

A. 1973 CORN CROP WAS SOWN DURING VERY WET SPRING WEATHER IN
GENERALLY SOGGY, WATER-SOAKED SOIL AND, ACCORDING TO GOR OFFICIALS,
SOME SEED WAS LOST SOON AFTER PLANTING. DROUGHT CONDITIONS SET IN
ABRUPTLY, HOWEVER, AND BY TIME OF FALL CORN HARVEST EARS WERE
STUNTED AND YIELD DROPPED OFF CONSIDERABLY FROM PREVIOUS YEAR (IN
WHICH HARVEST WAS ALSO HAMPERED BY EXCESSIVE RAIN AND WATER IN THE
FIELDS). ACCORDING TO FIGURES AVAILABLE HERE, LASHKYEARS CORN
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CROP (1973 HARVEST) FELL OFF ABOUT 25 PERCENT FROM 1972. WE

HAVE 1973 CORN PRODUCTION FIGURE FROM GOR SOURCES AT 7.2 MILLION METRIC TONS COMPARED WITH ABOUT 9.5 MILLION METRIC TONS IN 1972.

B. AT SAME TIME FEED GRAIN REQUIREMENTS ROSE BECAUSE OF GROWTH STRUCTURE IN LIVESTOCK POPULATION. WHILE NUMBER OF SHEEP GREW ONLY SLIGHTLY BETWEEN YEARS 1970 AND 1973 AND CATTLE NUMBERS GREW MODERATELY IN SAME PERIOD, NUMBERS OF HOGS AND POULTRY, WHICH ARE MAIN CONSUMERS OF FEED GRAINS, EXPANDED RAPIDLY (HOGS UP ABOUT 50 PERCENT, POULTRY UP ABOUT 23 PERCENT BETWEEN YEARS 1970 AND 1973).
BARNES

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NNN

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